Appl. No. 10/003,298

Response date: March 27, 2006

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of the drawings include changes to all of the Figures (Figures 1 through 24). These sheets replace the original sheets. The figures have been amended to provide legends for boxes and other previously-unlabeled drawing elements as well as to improve line quality for several drawings.

In addition, Figures 3 and 8 have been amended to remove reference numbers. Figure 5 has been amended to include a missing line. Annotated marked-up drawings with the changes noted are included for Figures 3, 5, and 8.

The attached replacement sheets are being submitted as formal drawings.

Appendix:

Annotated Marked-up Drawing for Figures 3, 5, and 8.

Replacement Sheets for Figures 1 through 24 (29 sheets).

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-36 are pending. Claims 1-24 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants amended claim 1 to be in independent form including all limitations of the base and intervening claims as per the objection to make claims 1-24 allowable, amended claims 26-36 to depend from claim 1, and cancelled claim 25.

In view of the above response, Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that such action be taken. If the Examiner has any questions pertaining to this Amendment or to the subject application in general, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are due with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, necessitated by this amendment and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500477.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Antone Registration No. 39,094

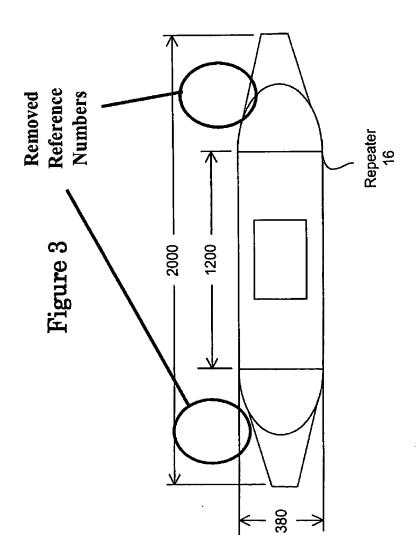
443-259-4150

CORVIS Corporation 7015 Albert Einstein Drive Columbia, MD 21046-9400

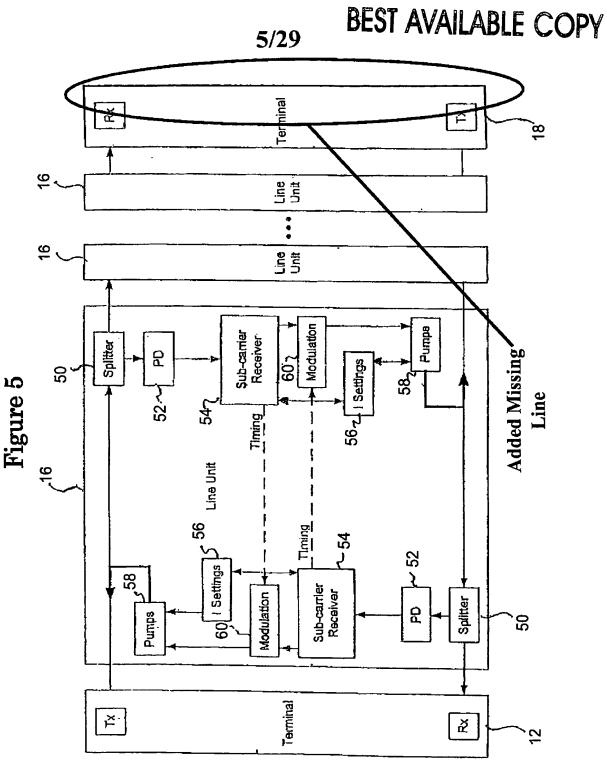
Annotated Marked-up Drawing

3/29

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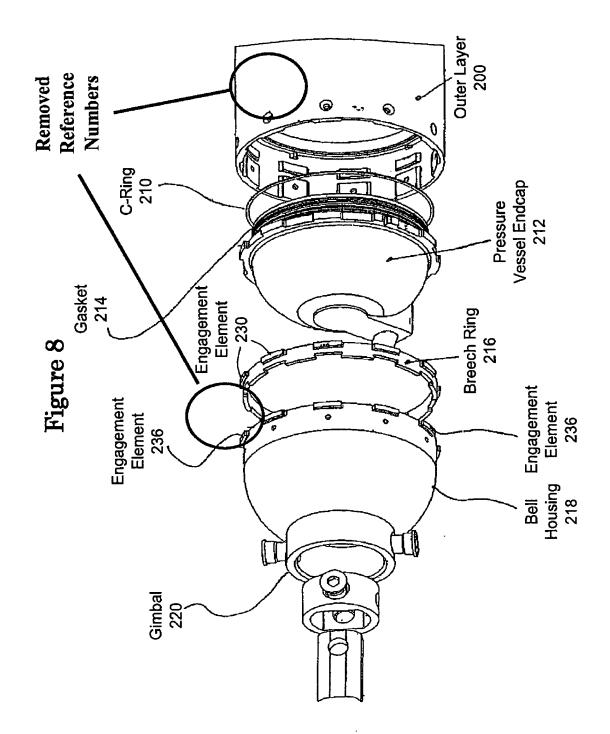


Annotated Marked-up Drawing



Annotated Marked-up Drawing

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Annotated Marked-up Drawing 9/29 BEST AVAILABLE COPY

